

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation)	
)	
or Suspension of the Educator)	CONSENT ORDER OF
)	
Certificate of Carleton C. Snow)	VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
)	
Certificate # 186795)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 9, 2003. On March 11, 2003, the State Board summarily suspended the South Carolina educator certificate (certificate) number 186795 of Carleton C. Snow, based on his arrest following allegations that he slapped a twelve year old special needs student in the face on February 11, 2003. On March 12, 2003, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Mr. Snow a notice of hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his certificate by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery. Mr. Snow received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing his signature. Mr. Snow initially requested a hearing, but subsequently agreed through his attorney, Patrick M. Killen, Esquire, in settlement to the voluntary surrender of his certificate, in lieu of a hearing where the Department would seek the permanent revocation of his certificate. The agreement allows Mr. Snow the right to re-apply for a certificate after three years from the date of this order. If he chooses to re-apply for a certificate, Mr. Snow must undergo a character fitness review by the State Board. Mr. Snow also agrees to successfully complete a course or program approved by the Department in anger management and classroom management. This surrender will be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of Mr. Snow's certificate upon the terms set forth above.

Mr. Snow holds a valid South Carolina certificate with over five years of teaching experience in Sumter County School District Seventeen (District). He was under contract with the District for the 2002-2003 school year. On February 14, 2003, the District suspended Mr. Snow from his teaching position at Wilder Middle School during

Carleton C. Snow # 186795

an investigation into allegations that Mr. Snow slapped a twelve year old, wheelchair bound female student with cerebral palsy in the face during class on February 11, 2003. Mr. Snow, whom has not as of this date been convicted of any crime, denies any wrongdoing. In addition, there has been no judicial determination of wrong-doing on the part of Mr. Snow.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (1990). Just cause includes “Unprofessional conduct ...and...Evident unfitness for the position for which employed.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (1990). The State Board finds that the preponderance of the evidence presented supports its decision to accept the voluntary surrender of Mr. Snow’s certificate # 186795, effective January 13, 2004.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary E. Jones

Dr. Mary Jones

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

January 13, 2004

I, Carleton C. Snow, SC Teaching Certificate # 186795, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Tuesday, January 13, 2004, for approval.

/S/ Carleton C. Snow
Carleton C. Snow

1/7/04
Date